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## **Department of the Navy eBusiness Operations Office Hits Record Attendance for Financial Card Conference**

The Department of the Navy (DON) eBusiness Operations Office recently hosted its annual Agency Program Coordinator (APC) Conference to bring together DON APCs from around the world who are responsible for government travel card and purchase card programs within their organizations. Program management and policy personnel from DON and the Department of Defense (DoD) joined bank partners to provide information on program management, policy changes, training and new initiatives, plus experienced APCs shared best practices with almost 1,000 participants at this year's conference held the first week of March in Atlanta.

Featured speakers at this year's conference included Mr. David McDermott, from the Assistant Secretary of the Navy's Office of Financial Operations (FMO). Mr. McDermott stated, "The Navy is investing money in training its people to properly manage government purchase and travel cards, and the training provided at the Navy APC Conference is one of the best ways the eBusiness Office is bringing training to the APCs." Mr. Ron Plesco, attorney and Internet security expert, spoke about identify theft and ways to safeguard personal and credit card information. Mr. John Treanor, attorney and law professor, addressed attendees on fiscal law.

Numerous educational breakout sessions were available to participants on topics including: Fraud Prevention, Simplified Acquisition, Purchase Card Audits, Delinquency Management and Time Management, to name a few. A new feature at this year's conference was the availability of a computer lab where bank personnel provided hands-on training to APCs. As a companion to the on-site training, conference attendees received a CD containing the recently revised DON Travel Card Policy, role-based training modules and Desk Guides. Awards were also presented to honor a select number of APCs of the Year and to recognize major commands exhibiting a commitment to improving financial card processes by supporting attendance of their local APCs at this educational conference.

Participation in the conference has tripled since the first one held in 2001, and the eBusiness Operations Office expects next year's conference attendance to increase significantly. With more than 220,000 travel and purchase cardholders across the Navy and Marine Corps generating nearly \$3 billion in total combined annual transaction volume, the demand for training refreshment of current APCs and orientation of new APCs is expected to grow.



Next year's conference is already in the planning stages and is tentatively scheduled for March 2005 on the west coast. This year's conference materials and extensive financial card information are available on the eBusiness website at [www.don-ebusiness.navsup.navy.mil](http://www.don-ebusiness.navsup.navy.mil). For questions regarding the eBusiness Card Management Programs, contact John DePasque at [john.depasque@navy.mil](mailto:john.depasque@navy.mil) or phone 717-605-9389, DSN 430-9389.

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